

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address

The aftermath

Excerpts from newspapers and
other sources illuminating
aspects of this most well-known
Presidential speech

1950-1963

Articles

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection
(Formerly described as: Binder 5, p. 77-86)



Public Will See Lincoln Document

6-9-50
CHICAGO (UP)—All five copies of Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg address which are in his own handwriting will be brought together in Chicago to celebrate the "four score and seven year" anniversary of the historical talk.

The Chicago Historical Society will open the exhibit on the exact anniversary, Nov. 19, 1950.

The estimated value of the documents is \$400,000.

Two of the copies are owned by the Library of Congress; one by the Illinois State Historical Library in Springfield, Ill.; one by Cornell University, and the fifth by Oscar Cintas of Havana, former Cuban ambassador to the United States.

Lincoln wrote the first copy of the address in Gettysburg on the morning of Nov. 19, and three copies after the address in response to special requests. No two of the five copies are identical in punctuation, words, size or appearance.

AMONG THE AUTHORS

by FREDERIC BABCOCK

AVERY CRAVEN, distinguished author, historian, professor, and reviewer for the Magazine of Books and other periodicals, has been invited to fill the chair of American history at Cambridge university, England, for 1952-53. . . . The other day Dr. Craven asked me to criticize book reviews submitted by five of the students in his seminar at the University of Chicago, and then to deliver my criticisms in the form of an informal talk to the seminar.

• • •

It was my pleasure to tell the students that while, in the main, their efforts were satisfactory, they—like most other candidates for advanced degrees, and like some professional authors and critics—have attained such a lofty scholastic plane that they seem incapable of expressing their ideas in simple [and therefore readable] language.

. . . Their critiques were loaded down with such sentences as these: "Resting his interpretation on the assumption that the democratic processes must be one of compromise, Mr. Agar proceeds to demonstrate that political parties are but extra-legal organs that achieve this requirement." "The fact that the national leadership of the Democratic party failed at the very time when the moderating effect of a national political organization was needed was to a considerable extent responsible for the breakdown of the process and the tragedy of the Civil War." "An analysis of all this material culled from many manuscripts and varied newspapers if interwoven in a more advanced narrative style than merely a question-quotation-summary organization would be of more interest to the average reader."

• • •

By way of contrast, I read a two minute speech that—largely because of its sheer simplicity and eloquence—is acknowledged to be

ALL-TIME CLASSIC TO BE DISPLAYED

The Gettysburg address was delivered on Nov. 19, 1863. Exactly four score and seven years later—on Nov. 19, 1950—the five extant copies of it, in Abraham Lincoln's handwriting, will go on exhibition at the Chicago Historical society, North av. and Clark st. The display, open to the public, will continue thru Nov. 30. Children will be admitted free at all times, and admission for adults will be free except on Sundays. The exhibit, valued at half a million dollars, is of historical importance in that this is the first time the five copies have been assembled. Teachers, librarians, and PTA members are urged to call it to the attention of the school children. And, as indicated on this page, the classic can be studied with profit by college students, both graduate and undergraduate.

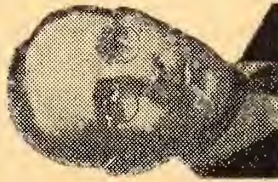
one of the classic utterances of all time. . . . If I'm not mistaken, the speech is held up to the students at Cambridge—the university where Dr. Craven will be teaching two years hence—as an example of perfect English, and, for the same reason, is inscribed on the walls of one of the colleges at Oxford university.

. . . Here is the text of the address as it was given by a self-educated rail splitter from Illinois, along with my idea of how it might have been written by a Ph. D. or a Phi Beta Kappa—or by a highly educated politician.

. . . In printing the two versions I am not, I trust, insulting anybody or any institution of learning. . . . I'm merely trying to show what a master craftsman can do with the language, and how an ambitious and learned phrasemaker can botch up the job.



Abraham Lincoln



Avery Craven

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure.

"We are met on a great battlefield of that war.

"We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live.

"It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground.

"The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract.

"The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

"It is for us the living rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.

"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

"Eighty-seven years prior to the current twelvemonth the ancestors of those present on this historic occasion evoked in the western hemisphere for the first time a nation impregnated in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all members of the genus homo are caused to exist alike in quality, degree, and value.

"As of the present moment, we are under engagement in a monumental series of military operations between regions within our country to evaluate the mathematical chances of whether that nation, or, as an alternative, any other nation similarly impregnated and similarly dedicated, possesses a possibility of sustaining itself on this mundane sphere without impairment for a conceivably lengthy period of time.

"The members of this prodigious congregation are assembled within the confines of a battlefield, of considerable dimensions, that has been the setting of a portion of that conflict.

"We have put in an appearance to dedicate a constituent fragment of that area as an ultimate slumbering repository for those hirelings who on this location donated their existences in order that that nation might continue to remain alive.

"It is essentially appropriate and in conformity with the established standards of behavior that we should conduct ourselves in this seemly manner.

"However, in a more extensive meaning, we are unable to dedicate, we are unable to consecrate, we are unable to sanctify this segment of God's green footstool.

"The courageous male mammals—either still in existence or gathered into the arms of the Almighty—who opposed the adversary hereabouts have consecrated the area remotely superior to our deficient capability of making an addition thereto or subtracting therefrom.

"This particular division of the universe will to an inconsequential degree take notice of or enduringly bring back before the conscious mind our utterances hereabouts, but it is incapable of forgetting what those male mammals accomplished.

"Those of us who are still numbered among the survivors should be dedicated to the still uncompleted undertaking which the hirelings engaged in battle here have, up to this date in the annals of history, so beautifully placed in the vanguard.

"It is our responsibility to be dedicated to the monumental assignment of circumventing the obstacles that still stand in the avenue of our progress toward peace and prosperity—that from these esteemed but slightly defunct homo sapiens we seize, without force or artifice, a large dose of devotion to that quarrel for which they bestowed the ultimate overflowing amount of earnest attachment—that the entire multitude of us reach the determination, on an exalted plane, that these who are no longer endowed with life shall not necessarily have relinquished their lives without avail, that this nation beneath the Supreme Being shall have another parturition of exemption from external control, and that the authoritative direction and restraint exercised over the actions of men in communities, societies, and states—government controlling the populace, performed by the populace, and on behalf of the populace shall not disappear from the planet which we inhabit."

1951

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CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1951

History Made— Fourscore And 8 Years Ago

By Walter F. Morse

Except that it was considerably warmer, Nov. 19, 1863, at the Gettysburg Battlefield Cemetery was a good deal like Nov. 19, 1951, in Chicago.

Both were clear, sunny days, following nights when the moon was bright. On both Nov. 19's few Americans were thinking about history in the making.

This was curiously the case at Gettysburg, where the President of the United States was among the speakers at the dedication of the cemetery.

He might not have been on the speaker's platform at all if Col. Clark E. Carr, Illinois representative on the Gettysburg Cemetery Commission, hadn't more or less insisted on it.

'A FEW REMARKS'

The other commissioners had felt the President wasn't quite up to making a speech adequate to the solemnity of the occasion.

Carr, then, was surely a sympathetic reporter of the President's address. Yet here is what Carr said later:

"He (the President) began in those high, clarion tones, which the people of Illinois had so often heard. . . . He spoke with deliberation, but cannot be said to have continued more than three or four, some said two, minutes. . . .

"So short a time was Mr. Lincoln before them that the people could scarce believe their eyes when he disappeared from their view. . . . Everyone thought that . . . Mr. Lincoln . . . (had) only made a very few 'dedicatory remarks.'"

FIVE COPIES EXIST

The "few remarks" were, of course, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, destined not to fade like smoke on the afternoon air, but to become immortal.

That immortality was fittingly symbolized a year ago, when the Chicago Historical Society brought together for the first time all the five known copies of the address written in Abraham Lincoln's own hand.

About 10,000 persons viewed the documents in the 12 days they were on display.

"Most visitors took time to read all five," said Paul M. Angle, director of the society. "The intensity of their interest was indicated by their obvious absorption and their hushed voices."

ILLINOIS HAS ONE

One of the best-preserved of the



Observing 88th anniversary of Gettysburg Address, Charles Pall, history teacher at Jones Commercial High School, assumes role of President Lincoln. Impressed are students (l. to r.) Beverly Knudsen, Marilyn Futter and Betty Gill. SUN-TIMES Photo.


months after the dedication. It was auctioned for the benefit of wounded Civil War soldiers at the New York Sanitary Fair in April, 1864, where it brought \$1,000.

By that time, the Gettysburg Address was beginning to get the recognition it deserved. And as a result Lincoln himself was beginning to overcome the disappointment he had felt in the speech itself and the indifference with which most of its original audience had received it.

five copies is permanently situated in Lincoln's state—Illinois. Sheathed in orange-tinted plastic in the Illinois State Historical Library at Springfield, this copy should resist sunlight, air and dampness for many more years.

It was purchased for the state in 1944. Donations from Illinois school children, supplemented by a gift from Marshall Field, president of The SUN-TIMES, provided the \$60,000 needed to buy it.

Lincoln wrote this copy only a few



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State of Indiana through the Indiana State Library

<http://archive.org/details/lincolxxxxxxxxx00linc>

Lincoln's 5 Gettysburg Manuscripts on Display

Just four score and seven years ago to the day, and exact hour, Lincoln's three-minute Gettysburg Address in his own handwriting went on public display Sunday at the Chicago Historical Society.

Five copies of the classic speech written by Lincoln himself, some of the words in pencil, some in ink, will be shown for 12 days under armed guard as part of the nation's observance of its 87th anniversary.

At the commemoration ceremonies in the society's museum, Clark and North, Gov. Stevenson declared that Lincoln took a global view of the Civil War.

SAW FULL MEANING

"He saw it in global dimensions," said Stevenson. "It was not only the American Union that was imperiled. Upon the fate of the Union hung the fate of world democracy.

"Lincoln's fight is not finished. The far future into which he

looked is here, and we are now the living.

"Four score and seven years after he uttered these immortal words, it is for us to be rededicated to our democratic faith."

Lincoln's "four score and seven years" speech still fits the present world situation, Stevenson said. After the Civil War ended, it seemed that Lincoln's principles were getting world acceptance, he declared, adding:

"The people of America took this for granted. To us it became merely a question of when and how. America became complaisant. She lost sight of her mission.

"Too often, she took a selfish, limited view, ignoring the struggle of other people to shape their own affairs and win more of life's blessings for themselves."

MAYOR TAKES PART

Taking part in the ceremonies also was Mayor Kennelly. Stevenson earlier had proclaimed Sunday "Gettysburg Address Day" throughout the state.

The exhibit is the first showing of the five copies together. An Army honor guard stood by as visitors filed past the specially-built museum case and paused to read Lincoln's own handwriting.

Spectators noted the slight changes and the polishing of certain words that Lincoln had made in the texts while copying them. Museum officials said the manuscripts are valued at \$500,000.

The display will be shown Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. On Sunday and Thanksgiving Day the hours will be from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free except on Sunday when adults are charged 30 cents.

By Fletcher Wilson

The "Four score and seven years ago" address, given exactly that many years ago to the hour at Gettysburg, Pa., will be commemorated at 3 p.m. Sunday in ceremonies at the Chicago Historical Society.

The program, with talks by Gov. Stevenson and Mayor Kennelly, will open an exhibition of the five original manuscripts of Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

The copies, all in Lincoln's handwriting, have been brought together for the first time in the society's building at North and Clark in Lincoln Park. They are valued at \$100,000 each.

The first draft of the address was written by Lincoln in Washington several days before he went to Gettysburg, on Nov. 19, 1863, for the dedication of the Civil War cemetery.

The draft starts in ink on a

square piece of stationery. The second page is foolscap with the words in pencil.

The second manuscript is a "fair copy" made by Lincoln on the day of the address. He held it in his hand as he stood before his audience.

The major change in the second copy is the addition of the sentence: "It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they (the dead) have, thus far, so nobly carried on."

The following three copies polish the language a little. The "so nobly carried on" phrase appears in the third and following copies as "so nobly advanced."

The second draft also had taken a polishing step by changing "This we may in all propriety do" to the more sonorous "It is altogether fitting and proper that we do this."

ADDS A PHRASE

Another change indicates that Lincoln did a bit of extemporizing as he spoke. The phrase "under God" does not appear until the third draft, but contemporary newspapers reported it in the text heard from the platform.

It is in the section: "That this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom."

The third copy was made at the insistence of Edward Everett, a leading orator of the time, who was the scheduled principal speaker at the dedication. Everett, who spoke for two hours, recognized that Lincoln had stolen the show for posterity with three minutes of literature.

BEGS COPY

Everett begged the copy to be sold at auction at a fair of the Sanitary Commission, a forerunner of the American Red Cross.

The fourth copy was scratched off for George Bancroft, a historian, to include in a book.

Lincoln then decided that "certain requisites as to form" were lacking. He made a formal fifth copy, with meticulous punctuation and on good stationery, to leave behind him.

No two drafts are identical in punctuation, words or stationery.

IN VARIOUS HANDS

The first and second copies are held by the Library of Congress. The third belongs to the Illinois State Historical Society. The fourth is the property of Cornell University. The fifth is owned by Oscar B. Cintas of Havana, Cuba.

The manuscripts will remain on display through Nov. 30.

On Sundays and Thanksgiving Day, the museum will be open from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Weekdays, the exhibition hours will be 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturdays the museum will close at 4:30 p.m.

A Sunday admission of 30 cents, including tax, will be charged adults. Other days are free.

Chl - Sun-Times - 11-19-50
**Rites to Open Showing
Of Lincoln Address**



The Gettysburg Address

Following is the text of the Gettysburg address which President Abraham Lincoln delivered 93 years ago today:

FOUR SCORE and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

NOW we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that they might cause this nation to live.

It cost David Kotler, 48, 5924 N. Kimball av., a fish store operator, \$43.36 to take three friends to watch the Chicago Bears defeat the Los Angeles Rams at the Los Angeles Coliseum.

Private Parking Space Proves Costly

RAMS AREN'T ONLY LOSERS

Private Parking Space Proves Costly

He is to set machinery in motion for the salvage job and report to the general assembly on the outcome of his assignment "to establish peace and order."

Talk for 3 Days

United Nations troops begin to pile up in Italian staging area. Story on page 19.
Israel spurns Russia's demand that it pay Egypt reparations. Story on page 11.
Three Moslem premiers meet today to try to save the Baghdad pact. Story on page 18.

through the full two hours of Everett's oration. Then, in a voice high pitched, but slow and distinct, Lincoln in little more than 2 minutes, read his "few appropriate remarks"—the Gettysburg address.

There is no picture of Lincoln delivering his speech. It is generally believed that Lincoln spoke, and sat down before a photographer, using early plates, could load his camera and take a picture.

Question on Writing
 If the Gettysburg address had not become famous, the facts above would have satisfied historical curiosity. The first question raised when and under what circumstances the address was read to the Hungarian churches and lodges met to discuss Russian oppression in the city.

Instead members of Chicago Hungarian churches and lodges met to discuss Russian oppression in the city.

Full Signature of Lincoln

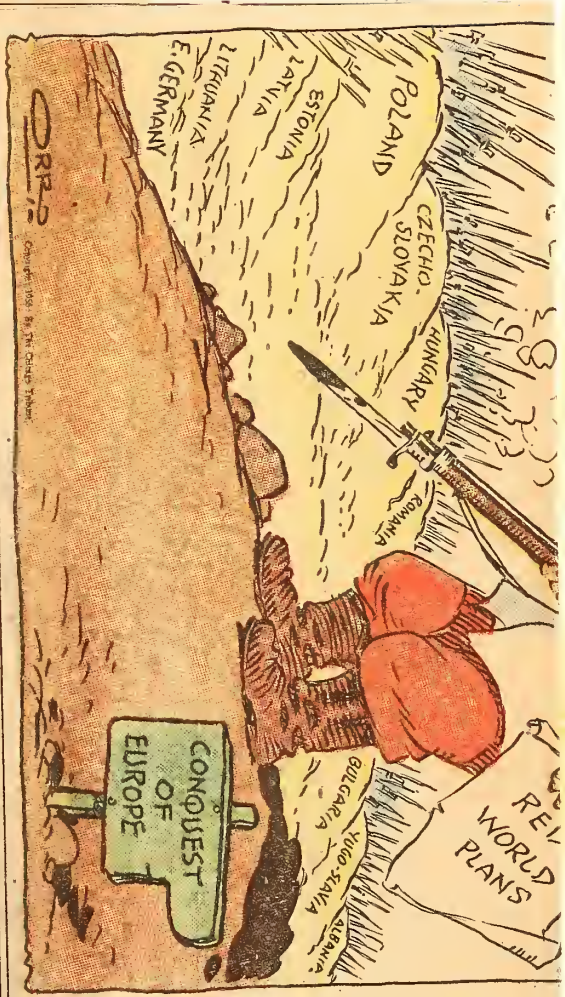
By the people, for the people, shall not pass from the earth.

November 19, 1863.
 Abraham Lincoln
 Lincoln's signature, with his first name spelled out, as it appears on draft of Gettysburg address.

hardly aware what he was talking about.
 The important people on the platform were no more alert than the general audience.

Secretary of State William H. Seward yesterday announced that he will accompany Mayor Daley yesterday afternoon.

Daley to Urge Tag Day to Assist Hungarians



stalked from the room. Egypt and Hungary were his main themes.
 "If you don't like us, don't accept our invitations and don't invite us to come to see you," the Communist party boss suggested, red-faced and gesticulating. "Whether you like it or not, history is on our side. We will bury you."

The scene was a reception at the Polish embassy following the signing of a Moscow-Warsaw joint declaration. Last night at another Kremlin party honoring the Poles Khrushchev denounced "imperialists and their puppets."

That sent the envoys, including United States Ambassador Charles Bohlen, to the exits.
"When Are You Right?"
 Tonight they retired to an outer room.
"The atmosphere is much more pleasant," a European diplomat said.
 All returned to the reception when Khrushchev finished speaking.
 Khrushchev opened his remarks calmly, saying:
"We are Bolsheviks. We stick firmly to the Lenin line."

LINGOLN TALK AT GETTYSBURG 63 YEARS OLD

Time, Legend Confuse

Talk for 3 Days

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ROME, Nov. 18 (AP)—A pledge of United Nations agreement in principle to help Egypt clear the littered Suez canal was extended by Dag Hammarskjold in winding up his peace talks in Cairo today.

To cheers of a huge Egyptian crowd, the U.N. secretary general took a plane from Cairo's airport on his way back to New York.

At U. N. headquarters there he is to set machinery in motion for the salvage job and report to the general assembly on the outcome of his assignment "to establish peace and order."

tary commission fair [today we would say benefit fair] held in New York in March, 1864. The fourth and fifth copies also were for a sanitary fair, in Baltimore.
 The last, and official one, entirely in Lincoln's hand, is on plain paper, and headed: "Address delivered at the dedication of the Cemetery at Gettysburg." At the end is the date, "November 19, 1863." The signature, it is worth noting, is "Abraham Lincoln," not his usual one of "A. Lincoln."

The third copy of the original Gettysburg manuscripts is owned by the state of Illinois, and is on view in the museum of the state historical library in Springfield. The library also has the original copy of Everett's speech.

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LINCOLN TALK

AT GETTYSBURG

93 YEARS OLD

Time, Legend Confuse

Facts on Address

BY ALEX SMALL

Ninety-three years ago today Abraham Lincoln stood up on a wooden

platform in a little Pennsylvania town and delivered a "few appropriate remarks" to dedicate a new military cemetery. He spoke for little more than 2 minutes, but in that time added a priceless jewel to the treasury of American patriotism.



Lincoln (Ready Photo)

In the years since Americans have taken the Gettysburg address to their hearts and accorded it a reverence equal to that for the Declaration of Independence. In far distant lands its simple, vibrant eloquence has won general admiration.

Subject of Controversy

The circumstances connected with the address have become a subject of historical controversy. The accounts of eyewitnesses vary, sometimes contradict each other. Popu-

The Gettysburg Address

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FOUR SCORE and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

NOW we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

BUT in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be dedicated here to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead, we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

remained between 3,000 and 4,000 unclaimed bodies in scattered, hastily dug graves. A prominent citizen of Gettysburg (population then about 3,000), David Wills, wrote to the governor of Pennsylvania, Andrew G. Curtin, proposing that "these bodies should be assembled in a common graveyard, on an elevation overlooking the whole battlefield, where some of the hottest fighting had taken place. It was called Cemetery hill because it already was the cemetery for the town.

the latter was requested "after the oration . . . to set apart formally these grounds to their sacred use by a few appropriate remarks. Here arises the first question regarding the Gettysburg address. Why a full dress oration for Everett, and for Lincoln "a few appropriate remarks?" Was Wills slighting the President? The question, in itself, is not absurd; the north was full of people who had no high opinion of Lincoln's ability. Or did Wills think it would

through the full two hours of Everett's oration. Then, in a voice high pitched, but slow and distinct, Lincoln in little more than 2 minutes, read his "few appropriate remarks"—the Gettysburg address.

There is no picture of Lincoln delivering his speech. It is generally believed that Lincoln spoke, and sat down before a photographer, using early plates, could load his camera and take a picture.

Question on Writing

If the Gettysburg address had not become famous, the facts above would have satisfied historical curiosity. The first question raised was—when and under what circumstances did Lincoln write the address? Soon a story circulated that he had given the matter no thought until he got on the train at Washington, and then, between bumps and jolts, had scribbled out the address on the back of an envelope. There is no reliable testimony to support this story, and considerable against it. Lincoln did probably the actual writing quickly, but his practice was to brood on every subject, until in his mind he knew down to the actual phrasing, just what he meant to say.

On the entirely credible testimony of his secretary, John G. Nicolay, Lincoln wrote at least half of the Gettysburg address on Nov. 17, on a sheet of paper headed "Executive Mansion." This is in ink. The rest, on plain paper and in pencil, he probably composed on the evening of Nov. 18 in Wills' house. The following morning he may have made some additions or corrections.

How Was It Received?

Second question—how was

Full Signature of Lincoln

By the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln

November 19, 1863.

Lincoln's signature, with his first name spelled out, as it appears on draft of Gettysburg address.

hardly aware what he was talking about. The important people on the platform were no more alert than the general audience.

Secretary of State William H. Seward expressed their opinion: "He has made a failure, and I am sorry for it. His speech is not equal to him."

Lincoln himself was apparently disappointed at the cool reception given his address. He was obviously consoled by the letter he received from orator Everett, in which the latter wrote: "I shall be glad if I could flatter myself that I came so near the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in 2 minutes."

It is interesting to note that Lincoln never used the pronoun "I" in the speech.

Everett Saw Greatness

Credit for first appreciating the greatness of the Gettysburg address might be given to Everett, some consolation for the obscurity into which his own elaborate oration has fallen. Other voices soon joined his. On Nov. 20, in its first story of the event, THE TRIBUNE said that "the dedicatory remarks by President Lincoln will live among the annals of the war."

A Harrichure Da honor

tary commission fair [today we would say benefit fair] held in New York in March 1864. The fourth and fifth copies also were for a sanitary fair, in Baltimore.

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Subject of Controversy

The circumstances connected with the address have become a subject of historical controversy. The accounts of eyewitnesses vary, sometimes contradict each other. Popular legend, so persistent in every episode of the life of Lincoln, then further obscured the facts.

One capital point is beyond argument—the official text of the Gettysburg address. That was established by Lincoln himself within five months after the cemetery's dedication. But were those the words he spoke on Nov. 19, 1863? Substantially, yes; on that the authorities agree.

No one, however, knows exactly how he followed the words of the first draft, the one which he then held in his hand. If we trust the version taken down by a reporter on the spot and printed in THE TRIBUNE of Nov. 21, 1863, Lincoln made a number of variations.

Turning Point of War

The battle of Gettysburg, which broke Gen. Lee's invasion of the north and even then was hailed as the turning point of the Civil war, took place on the first three days of July, 1863. Immediately after, military agencies, along with relatives and friends, cleared the fields of the dead.

Most of them were shipped home for burial. There re-

wrote to the governor of Pennsylvania, Andrew G. Curtin, proposing that these bodies should be assembled in a common graveyard, on an elevation overlooking the whole battlefield, where some of the hottest fighting had taken place. It was called Cemetery hill because it already was the cemetery for the town.

\$140,000 Contributed

Various northern states contributed \$140,000 to the project, the enterprise was incorporated by the Pennsylvania legislature, and 17 acres were purchased for the Soldiers' National cemetery. The bodies then were reburied there in orderly rows, and, so far as possible, according to states. In the center of the semi-circle an open space was left for the monument which, it was expected, would be erected there.

The total number of soldiers reburied in the new cemetery during that summer of 1863 was 3,564. Of these, 2,585 had been identified.

For the dedication, Wills and Curtin sought the services of the Rev. Edward Everett, a former secretary of state, generally acknowledged as the most distinguished orator in the country. Everett accepted and to suit his convenience, the dedication was postponed from the date originally fixed, Oct. 23, to Nov. 19.

President Invited

Almost as an afterthought, Lincoln, as President, was invited to be in the center of the circle of honored guests. In the invitation which Wills sent to Lincoln on Nov. 2,

tion regarding the Gettysburg address. Why a full dress oration for Everett, and for Lincoln "a few appropriate remarks?" Was Wills slighting the President? The question, in itself, is not absurd; the north was full of people who had no high opinion of Lincoln's ability.

Or did Wills think it would be improper for him to ask the President, then under the pressure of managing a war, to take the time necessary for writing a long speech? Considering the occasion, it was unthinkable that he would pass the task on to a secretary.

Lincoln Not Orator

Further, the custom of the period required a solemn, stately, and elegant oration. Lincoln had no reputation as an orator. In his encounters with Douglas in 1858 he had established himself as a sharp debater, but sharp debate was not what Wills and the other members of the committee wanted.

With cabinet members and other important persons invited to the ceremony, Lincoln left Washington by special train on Nov. 18, reached Gettysburg at nightfall, and was given lodgings in Wills' house. Later that evening Wills found Lincoln in his room, writing, and the same happened the next morning, circumstances of which much has been made.

At 10 a. m. on Nov. 19, Lincoln, on horseback, led the procession to the cemetery. Along with a crowd estimated at about 15,000 others, he sat

address on Nov. 17, on a sheet of paper headed "Executive Mansion." This is in ink. The rest, on plain paper and in pencil, he probably composed on the evening of Nov. 18 in Wills' house. The following morning he may have made some additions or corrections.

How Was It Received?

Second question—how was the speech received? How many people, if any, realized that they had been listening to something very great? The word "applause" between parentheses, in newspaper accounts of the event, is evidently only conventional editing. We have the word of Clark E. Carr, the trustee for Illinois on the Gettysburg committee, who was present, that Lincoln's speech was uninterrupted, and that at the end there was only mild perfunctory applause.

Lincoln also disappointed the crowd. In quantity, at least, they expected something more from him.

Oratory Popular

From our standpoint today, we should imagine they ought to have been grateful to Lincoln for having been so brief, after the two hours of Everett's speech. Not so; Americans of the 19th century had a lively appetite for, and strong endurance of, oratory. Lincoln, they felt, had let them down, by finishing before they were

our address might be given to Everett, some consolation for the obscurity into which his own elaborate oration has fallen. Other voices soon joined his. On Nov. 20, in its first story of the event, THE TRIBUNE said that "the dedicatory remarks by President Lincoln will live among the annals of the war."

A Harrisburg, Pa., paper commented: "We pass over the silly remarks of the President." Other Chicago papers and the Springfield [Ill.] Register were equally biting. The London Times said the ceremony was made "ludicrous by some of the sallies of poor President Lincoln."

The first wholehearted tributes to the address appeared in the Springfield [Mass.] Republican and the Providence Journal.

As to the text, Lincoln himself wrote out five successive drafts. The final version is the one accepted as official.

The first one, already discussed, is the one he followed or used as a guide, at the dedication on Nov. 19. The second draft may also have been written before the spoken delivery. Was he writing a second draft at Wills's house? Or it may date from his return to Washington, when he compared the first text with press reports.

Copy No. 3 was given to Everett to be sold at a sani-

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Gettysburg in '63 --- Mystic Vision



Illinois Historian Recalls Lincoln's Immortal Address

BY WILLIAM McGAFFIN
Of Our Washington Bureau

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — Ninety-four years ago Tuesday, President Abraham Lincoln came here mid-way in the Civil War to dedicate the soldiers' National Cemetery.

He delivered an address that has since become immortal—a classic so staggering in beauty and portent that those who have come after shrink from the task of speaking on this particular day.

Tuesday, however, it was the lot of Clyde C. Walton, Illinois state historian, to give the principal address at the cemetery on the anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

* * *

WALTON BEGAN with the observation that Lincoln came to Gettysburg "because there was something vitally significant that he wanted to say."

He told how Lincoln hoped that his few words would "soften the anguish of the bereaved" who stood in the crowd that day at the cemetery. And of how, equally important, Lincoln "wanted to say to a nation torn and tormented by civil war, that the good fight was worth its tragic cost."

He pointed out how much kinder Lincoln's words were than the cruel and unforgiving speech Secretary of State William Seward had made the previous evening in Gettysburg.

SEWARD said in part, Walton recalled, that he saw 40 years ago that slavery was opening before the people a graveyard that was to be filled with brothers falling in mutual political combat.

"We are now near the graves of the misguided," said Seward, "whom we have consigned to their last resting place, with pity for their errors."

Walton reminded his listeners of what the Union meant to Lincoln—"a mystic vision of liberty, of political equality and social fraternity, a new life for the individual to lead in personal freedom and simple dignity."

* * *

HE NOTED that "Lincoln spoke here, too, of the violence which is the idiot twin of political liberty."

And finally Walton bore down on the integration crisis that has the nation in its grip.

"Today, the principle of the supremacy of federal authority in maintaining the law of the land is being challenged," he said, "not too unlike the way Lincoln's government was challenged nearly a century ago."

"We can only trust that the American nation again can meet a challenge in the wisdom and dignity and

steadfast adherence to principle which characterized the faith of Abraham Lincoln.

Walton seemed to feel that

it will. For he noted in conclusion that the present President of the United States lives upon the borders of this battlefield and cemetery.

Perhaps it is not too much to believe, said Walton, "that one great American by virtue of his surroundings may draw from the exemplary words said here by the greatest American of us all, the wisdom and vision necessary to lead the United States toward the promised land of perpetual freedom, dignity and prosperity."



LINCOLN WORDS OF 94 YRS. AGO HEARD AGAIN

Recalled at Dedication Rites at Gettysburg

BY JOHN FISHER

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Gettysburg, Pa., Nov. 19—

On the 94th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's immortal address at the dedication of the national cemetery here, the nation today was reminded that Lincoln's words appropriately apply to current national troubles.

Dr. Cylde C. Walton, Illinois state historian, gave the dedication day address at ceremonies in Christ chapel of Gettysburg college, which this week has been holding a conference of scholars and historians on the Civil war battlefield.

Walton noted that President Eisenhower has his farm home adjacent to the Gettysburg battlefield and expressed hope that he may draw inspiration from Lincoln's address in conducting his duties as President.

Federal Law Challenged

Referring indirectly to recent southern strife over civil rights enforcement, including the school integration issue, Walton declared "today the principle of the supremacy of federal authority in maintaining the law of the land is being challenged, not too unlike the way Lincoln's government was challenged nearly a century ago."

"We can only trust that the American nation again can meet a challenge in the wisdom and dignity and steadfast adherence to principle which characterized the faith of Abraham Lincoln," Walton said. "The responsibility of maintaining our tested and proven philosophy of government should indeed weigh heavily on us all."

Lincoln's 3 minute speech, beginning "Four score and seven years ago" and ending "government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth," was read today by Dr. John Hope Franklin, chairman of the history department at Brooklyn college.

Hold Ceremonies Indoors

The ceremonies were originally scheduled to be conducted near the spot where Lincoln stood in the cemetery on Nov. 19, 1863, when he de-

livered the address, but rainy weather forced their transfer indoors.

Earlier today, at a luncheon sponsored by the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, Ralph G. Newman, proprietor of the Abraham Lincoln bookshop in Chicago, reported on the tremendous interest in writings about the Civil war and Lincoln.



New Light Is Shed on Civil War

*Historians Meet
At Gettysburg*

BY WILLIAM MCGAFFIN
Of Our Washington Bureau

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — The Civil War is one of the most written-up, talked about wars that ever took place. But even now, nearly a century later, the historians are still finding fresh things to say about it.

For instance, Allan Nevins, Columbia University professor of history, feels that "the most important result of the struggle, apart from the obvious facts of the saving of the Union and destruction of slavery, was the conversion of an unorganized people into an organized nation."

* * *

NEVINS maintains that "the methods and implications of the change are not even yet fully understood."

He made this point in a Lecture here Sunday night that kicked off a three-day conference to Civil War—An Emergent New America."

The conference is being held as the final event of Gettysburg College's 125th anniversary celebration.

Among the Civil War authorities who are here as conference consultants are Ralph G. Newman of the Abraham Lincoln bookshop, Chicago, and Clyde C. Walton, Illinois state historian and editor of "Civil War History.



Gettysburg Dedicated Anew by Ike

By Jean M. White
Staff Reporter

GETTYSBURG, Pa., Nov. 19
The hallowed ground of Gettysburg was rededicated today, one hundred years after Lincoln spoke his enduring words here.

Standing near the spot where Lincoln stood for his address, former president Dwight D. Eisenhower spoke the feelings of the gathered crowd: "... as here we sense his deep dedication to freedom, our own dedication takes added strength."

That strength is needed today, Gen. Eisenhower added, because the unfinished work of which Lincoln spoke in 1863 is still unfinished and "to live for a country is a duty as demanding as the readiness to die for it."

As Gen. Eisenhower spoke, the afternoon sun slanted through the trees to dapple the leaf-covered grave plots on the slopes nearby. Markers for soldiers who fell in World War I and World War II now stand near the graves of the Civil War dead.

Meaning Remains

It was on such a clear fall day one hundred years ago that President Lincoln had come to make a few appropriate remarks to dedicate the soldiers' cemetery for the Union men who had died in the Battle of Gettysburg. That had been less than five months before, and Lincoln spoke words to give meaning to their death.

That meaning remains for us today, the Centennial speakers reminded an audience of nearly 8000, on the cemetery grounds.

Gen. Eisenhower added an epilogue to his prepared speech today. He noted that Mr. Lincoln had reminded his hearers a century ago that they had no power to dedicate the cemetery.

"We have no such power to rededicate it," Mr. Eisenhower

told his present-day audience.

"Make a Beginning"

But he also told his listeners that, as they stood to hear the trumpeter play the soldier's farewell of Taps and shared the grief of families who had lost loved ones in battle, they could "make a beginning to do our part in helping finish the unfinished business of which Lincoln spoke."

The rededication ceremony at the cemetery this afternoon climaxed a three-day centennial observance of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

The speakers' platform today stood about 50 yards from the spot where Lincoln spoke. The original place is now marked by the Soldiers' National Monument in the center of the Civil War graves, which are laid out in great semi-circles. Many of the simple markers bear only numbers as "unknowns" of Ohio, Pennsylvania and the other Northern states.

The Centennial program today started with a parade to the cemetery. A century ago, the procession—as most parades—started late. Mr. Lincoln rode a chestnut horse, his legs dangling over the sides, with his stovepipe hat atop his head.

Same Parade Route

The motorcade today followed the same route up Baltimore street to Cemetery Hill, where 17 acres of land had been bought near the local cemetery to bury the Union dead of Gettysburg.

In the line of march today were two military units with close ties to Gettysburg. One hundred years ago the Marine Band had accompanied President Lincoln on the bumpy, six-hour train ride from Washington. The marchers also included the Third (Old Guard) Infantry Regiment, which had sent three companies to fight in Gettysburg.

Some 15,000 persons had gathered for the cemetery dedication in 1863. They heard a two-hour discourse by Edward Everett, the orator of the day, before President Lincoln arose to turn a small ceremonial task of making a "few appropriate remarks" into a classic.

He took barely two minutes to say his ten sentences. Mr. Lincoln left his mark of brevity on the ceremonies today. The speeches were short, and the program, simple but moving, was over in little more than an hour.



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